

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 1-24 are currently being canceled. Applicants, of course, reserve the right to prosecute these “withdrawn” claims in a divisional application to be filed at a later date, if so desired.

Claim 29 is currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment amends and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 25-76 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants greatly appreciate the indication of allowability of claims 25-28, 31, 43, 45, 47, 48 and 51-76, as well as the fact that claims 29, 30, 32-42, 44, 46, 49 and 50 are not rejected over any art of record.

Specification Amendments:

The specification has been amended to correct minor errors. No new matter is believed to have been added.

Indefiniteness Rejection of Claims 29, 30, 32-42, 44, 46, 49 and 50:

In the Office Action, claims 29, 30, 32-42, 44, 46, 49 and 50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, due to a minor antecedent basis problem with claim 29. By way of this amendment and reply, claim 29 has been amended to correct this minor antecedent basis problem (without affecting the scope of that claim), whereby claims 29, 30, 32-42, 44, 46, 49 and 50 are now believed to fully comply with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date July 28, 2005

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5407
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By Phillip J. Articola

David A. Blumenthal
Registration No. 26,257

Phillip J. Articola
Registration No. 38,819